

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A bearing shell for use as a crankshaft thrust bearing, the bearing shell having a cylindrical shell, the inside surface of the shell forming ~~the~~a radial bearing surface for the crankshaft, and flanges at both ends of the shell directed radially outward, the outer surfaces of the flanges forming ~~an~~the axial bearing surface for the crankshaft, the bearing shell comprising:

at least one oil passage running circumferentially on an inside surface of the shell;

an axial groove running axially in the shell, said groove connecting said circumferential oil passage with at least one of the flanges wherein said groove is arranged on the outside of the shell; and

an orifice passing through the bearing shell connecting said oil passage to said groove.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) The bearing shell of claim 1, further comprising: an opening passage through the flange coupled to said groove.

4. (original) The bearing shell of claim 1, further comprising clearance spaces formed at the flanges for oil distribution on the flanges.

5. (currently amended) The bearing shell of claim 1~~2~~, further comprising clearance spaces formed at the flanges for oil distribution on the flanges.

6. (original) The bearing shell of claim 3, further comprising clearance spaces formed at the flanges for oil distribution on the flanges.